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PATENT

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Dated: September 30, 2003 Signature: [Signature]  
(Lisa J. Michaud)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Lisa M. Donnelly et al.  
Application No: 10/608,899  
Filing Date: June 27, 2003  
Entitled: **FLEXIBLE TIBIAL SHEATH**  
Atty. Docket No: 22956-218

Group Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the U.S. filing date (37 CFR 1.97(b)(1)), thus no fees are believed to be due. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 101896-0178. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 30, 2003

[Signature]  
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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002.OMB 0651-0031

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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			<b>Application Number</b>	10/608,899	
			<b>Filing Date</b>	June 27, 2003	
			<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Lisa M Donnelly et al.	
			<b>Art Unit</b>	3732	
			<b>Examiner Name</b>	Not Yet Assigned	
<b>Sheet</b>	1	of	1	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	22956-218

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		2003/0065390	04-03-2003	Justin et al.	
		2002/0055780 A1	05-09-2002	Skylar	
		6,554,862	04-29-2003	Hays et al.	
		6,379,361	04-30-2002	Beck, Jr. et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

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OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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